

**AMENDMENT TO THE THOMAS AMENDMENT IN
THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 4157
OFFERED BY M__.** _____

Add at the end the following new section:

1 **SEC. 10. MEDICARE ADD-ON PAYMENT FOR HEALTH INFOR-**
2 **MATION TECHNOLOGY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
4 sion of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services
5 shall provide for payment under this section (in a form
6 and manner specified by the Secretary) to each health
7 care provider that furnishes items or services for which
8 payment may be made (but for the application of a deduct-
9 ible, coinsurance, or other cost-sharing) under part A or
10 part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act of the
11 amount specified in subsection (b) for items and services
12 furnished by the provider during the period specified in
13 subsection (c). Such payments are in addition to payments
14 otherwise made under such parts. This section constitutes
15 budget authority in advance of appropriations Acts and
16 represents the obligation of the Federal Government to
17 provide for the payment of health care providers of the
18 amounts provided under subsection (b).

1 (b) PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The payment amount
2 under this subsection with respect to items and services
3 furnished under part A or B of title XVIII of the Social
4 Security Act shall be such amount, over such period of
5 time, as the Secretary determines appropriate based on
6 the Secretary's estimates of the costs of providers to ac-
7 quire and support health information technology. Such
8 amount may be computed as a percent of the payment
9 amount otherwise recognized under such part for the pro-
10 vider and items and services involved (determined without
11 regard to the application of any deductibles, coinsurance,
12 or other cost-sharing).

13 (c) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—Payments pro-
14 vided under this section to a health care provider may only
15 be used for the purchase and support of health informa-
16 tion technology that meets the standards adopted by the
17 Federal government under section 271(c)(3)(B)(i) of the
18 Public Health Service Act either directly or through the
19 use of interface software or other technology necessary to
20 bring pre-existing systems into compliance with standards.

21 (d) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—Payments under subsection
22 (a) shall be made in appropriate part, as specified by the
23 Secretary of Health and Human Services, from the Fed-
24 eral Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, established under
25 section 1814 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f),

1 and from the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance
2 Trust Fund, established under section 1841 of such Act
3 (42 U.S.C. 1395t).

4 (e) HEALTH CARE PROVIDER DEFINED.—For pur-
5 poses of this section, the term “health care provider”
6 means a hospital, skilled nursing facility, home health
7 agency, or other provider of services or physician, health
8 care practitioner, or other supplier that furnishes items
9 and services described in subsection (a), but does not in-
10 clude a Medicare Advantage organization.

11 (f) APPLICATION TO INTEGRATED HEALTH CARE
12 DELIVERY SYSTEMS.—The Secretary shall provide for the
13 application of the previous provisions of this section to a
14 Medicare Advantage sponsor offering under part C of title
15 XVIII of the Social Security Act a Medicare Advantage
16 plan that integrates the functions of health plan, hospital,
17 physician, laboratory, pharmacy, and other clinicians in
18 the same manner as it applied to health care providers
19 under parts A and B of such title.